

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified priority document. Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating that the drawings are acceptable.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because at page 17, line 11, the word "massage" should read --message--. Applicants have corrected this typographical error.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 10 were objected to because of the informalities noted on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants have amended the claims to resolve any noted informalities, and kindly request that the objections to claims 1 and 10 be removed. These amendments are thought to be administrative in nature, and non-narrowing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(e)

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 12, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable by Moreno (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0035515). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. The potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) date for the Moreno publication is July 14, 2000 based on provisional U.S. Application No. 60/218,400. However, Applicants review of this provisional application reveals that the provisional application does not provide enabling disclosure and/or adequate written description to support features in the Moreno publication that the Examiner alleges read on the claims of the present application. As such, the Examiner

would have to rely on the non-provisional application filing date of July 12, 2001 for support.

However, as the Examiner will note, the present application has a priority date of December 21, 2000 which pre-dates the non-provisional application filing date of July 12, 2001.

As an example of the lack of support in the provisional application, independent claim 1, and the remaining independent claims, as amended, recite a “display” feature for displaying (presenting), for example, received ID information (as recited in dependent claim 4) and/or advertisement information (as recited in claims 7, 11, 16, and 18). The provisional application for Moreno is silent with respect to any type of display unit for the lockers, or an information manager, such as an advertisement information manager used to obtain information for display at the lockers. The Examiner will note that providing personalized advertisements is one of the problems solved by the present invention (see, for example, the present specification at page 1, lines 25 and 26). The Moreno provisional application does not suggest solving this problem. Further, while the Moreno provisional application suggests advertising, (see page 16 of the provisional application, first full paragraph) this advertising is not done for the individual locker user (or selected based on the user information), but in contrast, is broadcast to a large number of people to reduce deliveries by aggregating the deliveries to a particular “box”. Thus, this large scale broadcast of advertising information actually teaches away from features of the present invention since it is used only to facilitate “aggregation” of deliveries from a large population, and is not tailored to a user of the locker (see claims 7, 11, 16, and 18).

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable and requests that the application be passed to issue as quickly as possible.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/023,807

Attorney Docket No. Q67776

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

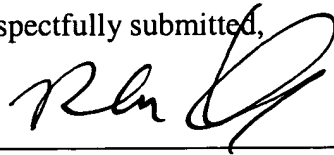
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Date: May 18, 2004